

What school will do to prevent bullying

- Ensure that everyday life at school encourages and provides opportunities to practise social skills
- Encourage all pupils to take an active role in deciding what bullying is and how it should be dealt with
- Encourage children to regard 'telling' as both acceptable and responsible
- Monitor incidents of bullying and harassment
- Ensure the adequate supervision of children at all times and throughout the school site
- Ensure that bullying is kept as a high profile issue through school assemblies and participation in events such as 'Anti-Bullying Week'
- Ensure the early identification of vulnerable pupils
- Provide a secure environment, for example 'Thumbs Up Club, at lunch time, with opportunities for children to develop confidence and social skills

A full copy of this policy is available on request.



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OUR POLICY ON BULLYING AND HARASSMENT



WHITMORE PARK PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Anti-bullying and Harassment Policy

At Whitmore Park Primary School we place great emphasis on children feeling safe and secure within their environment for effective learning to take place, and we will not tolerate bullying or harassment. If children are experiencing bullying, name-calling, or other forms of harassment, we cannot offer equal opportunities or equal access to learning.

Definition of bullying

Bullying is not easy to define. Sometimes it can involve hitting, punching, or kicking, but more commonly includes threats, teasing, name-calling, isolation and interfering with or taking possessions. It may also involve the use of mobile phones and the internet through messaging and email. Our E-Safety policy outlines measures taken to protect children and support them in the responsible use of ICT.

Bullying is not the one off incident which tends to be part of school, particularly playground life. It is the wilful, conscious desire to hurt, threaten or frighten someone. It is usually pre-meditated, carefully thought through, and perpetrators are aware of its implications and consequences.

Definition of harassment

Harassment is often 'impersonal', directed at people because of what they are rather

than who they are. People are harassed because of the group to which they belong.

Where does bullying happen?

Bullying can happen anywhere:

- In the playground
- Travelling to and from school
- In lessons

Some possible signs of bullying

A child may indicate by signs or behaviour that he /she is being bullied. If you are concerned and become aware of any of the following, you may wish to ask if someone is threatening or bullying your child.

Children may:

- Be frightened to walk to and from school
- Be unwilling to come to school i.e. unexplained illnesses
- Begin doing poorly in their work
- Have belongings damaged or possessions go missing
- Become withdrawn, start stammering
- Become distressed, stop eating
- Report broken friendships
- Attempt suicide
- Cry themselves to sleep
- Have bad dreams/ nightmares
- Have unexplained bruises or marks
- Begin stealing
- Refuse to say what is wrong

- Give improbable excuses to explain any of the above

What to do

Staff and parents in particular should trust their instincts. Parents know when their child is unhappy and should contact the school, even if what they know and feel is only a 'hunch'. Do not encourage children to retaliate with violence. This increases the risks of the child being hurt or disciplined themselves

Break the circle; help the child to speak out

Comfort, support and guidance will be given to pupils and staff who have suffered bullying and harassment. The approach will depend on the severity of the incident but all will receive acknowledgement of their distress and be assured that procedures will be followed to deal with the incidents. Assurance will also be given as to their safety.